

## Ways We're Alike



### Mini Fact:

Experts say kids who are kind are more popular.

Human beings are alike in many ways. But we're different, too.

Sometimes we get along better when we realize that we have many things in common with our classmates and neighbors.

While we are alike, we all have differences. If it weren't for our differences, we wouldn't be able to tell each other apart!

Fill in the blanks with words that describe you. For example, under Activities, what are your favorite things to do? Compare your answers with those of your classmates.

School is starting, and this is a good way to get to know and understand one another even better.

### Random acts of kindness

Have you heard of random acts of kindness? It's the idea that people should make kind gestures toward each other in our everyday lives. How about **pay it forward**? It suggests that when something nice happens to you, you should do something nice for someone else.

Acts of kindness don't have to be a big deal. For example, you could hold a door for someone with an armful of bags. You might put a neighbor's newspaper on the front porch during messy weather. If we all made small gestures such as these, it could help us live in a kinder world.

<b>Activities</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Travel</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Books</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Clothes</b> _____ _____ _____
<b>Sports</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Food</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Homes</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Goals</b> _____ _____ _____
<b>Music</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Nationalities</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Religions</b> _____ _____ _____	<b>Holidays</b> _____ _____ _____

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### Kindness counts

As school gets underway, you will be meeting new kids. Or maybe you're the new kid in your classroom.

One way to welcome a new student, or to make friends quickly, is to practice kindness and respect. The Mini Page came up with some ideas about how to be kind. Keep the list as a reminder, and add your own ideas to it.

#### Do:

- Introduce yourself to a new student.
- Play with a new kid and help her make friends.
- Share your stuff.
- Help a younger kid find his way around school.
- Stand up for your classmates.



#### Don't:

- Talk about people behind their backs.
- Spread rumors.
- Make fun of people with special needs.
- Pick on or tease people.
- Laugh when others are in trouble.

### Resources



#### On the Web:

- [bit.ly/1SKESZ9](http://bit.ly/1SKESZ9)
- [bit.ly/1GVeKoW](http://bit.ly/1GVeKoW)

#### At the library:

- "A Girl With a Cape" by Amy Logan
- "Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream" by Jenny Han

### Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of ways we're alike are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ALIKE, BIRTHDAY,  
DIFFERENT,  
ENTERTAINMENT,  
FOOD, FRIEND,  
GAMES, LANGUAGE,  
MUSIC, NATIONALITY,  
OPINIONS,  
PEOPLE, RELIGION,  
RESPECT, SCHOOL,  
UNDERSTANDING, WORK.

A L T N E M N I A T R E T N E  
L O P I N I O N S E K W O R K  
I O M B Q D J E L P O E P B L  
K H U Z N A T I O N A L I T Y  
E C S E M A G W T C E P S E R  
P S I C B I R T H D A Y N G K  
M R C F O O D I F F E R E N T  
F Q J N V L A N G U A G E M B  
U N D E R S T A N D I N G Q F

### Cook's Corner

#### Back-to-School Wraps

##### You'll need:

- 2 tablespoons light mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons mustard
- 3 large (8-inch) multigrain tortillas
- 5 ounces sliced turkey or ham
- 6 slices cheddar cheese
- 1/2 red bell pepper, cut into strips

- 1/2 cup peeled and chopped cucumber
- 6 sweet pickle slices
- 1 (2 1/4-ounce) can sliced black olives
- 1 1/2 cups shredded lettuce



\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

##### What to do:

1. Mix mayonnaise and mustard together and spread evenly on 3 large tortillas.
2. Cover each tortilla with thin slices of meat. Layer 2 slices of cheese on each.
3. Layer other ingredients on tortillas toward the middle to make rolling up easier.
4. Roll each tortilla tightly into a long cylinder. Cut each wrap in half. Secure with a toothpick if necessary. Makes 3 large or 6 smaller sandwich wraps.

### Puzzling

Unscramble the words below that remind us of this issue's theme.



nrodam \_\_\_\_\_  
snikensd \_\_\_\_\_  
eakil \_\_\_\_\_  
ehasr \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: random, kindness, alike, share.

### Mini Jokes



**Monty:** What type of notebook would be best for trees and bushes to use?

**Molly:** A loose-leaf notebook!

### Eco Note



You may already recycle, but do you PREcycle?

Before you decide what to buy, think about how much packaging you'll have to throw away. Look for packages that can be reused or recycled. Or buy packages made of materials that have already been recycled.

adapted with permission from "The New 50 Simple Things Kids Can Do to Save the Earth" by The Earthworks Group, Andrews McMeel Publishing (andrewsmcmeel.com)

### For later:

Look through your newspaper and make a list of stories that interest you. Compare your list with a classmate's.

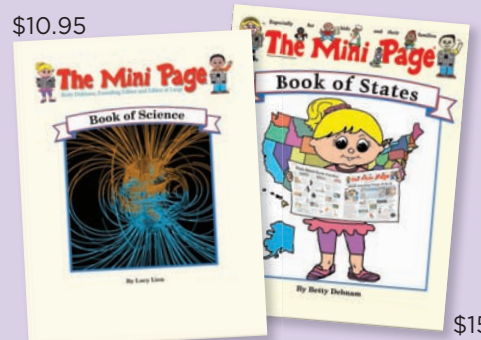
### Teachers:

For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: [bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching\\_guides.html](http://bbs.amuniversal.com/teaching_guides.html)

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